Living tribes

1316. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of living tribes in different parts of the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether Government have provided enough financial assistance for these tribal communities for their education, rehabilitation, etc.; and

(c) if so, the funds earmarked for each tribal community during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) There are 706 communities identified as Scheduled Tribes in the country which are State specific. Out of these, 35 communities have been notified as Scheduled Tribes in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c) This Ministry has been providing funds to the State/UT Governments, including Andhra Pradesh, under various schemes for socio-economic as well as educational development of the Scheduled Tribes. These funds are in addition to what is provided by different Ministries/ Departments of Government of India and by the States/UTs in their own budget. Funds are also provided under various schemes to NGOs working in different States/UTs. The funds are earmarked scheme-wise in favour of each State/UT Government having tribal population. They are not earmarked for particular tribal communities. During the year 2003-04 and 2004-2005, the Ministry has sanctioned Rs. 893.90 Crores and 1052.96 Crores for the welfare of STs. Out of these, Rs. 81.48 Crores and Rs. 69.61 Crores were released in favour of Andhra pradesh during the aforesaid two years.

Dalit Freedom Network

1317. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an organization known as Dalit Freedom Network (DFN) has been set up in Washington with the help of the American Government to raise awareness among the plights of Dalits and Tribals of India and to secure resources to fund holistic programmes for their development; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

Protection and preservation of tribal art and culture

1318. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any policy to protect and preserve the tribal art and culture of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to establish a National Tribal Museum; and

(d) if so, the details alongwith the location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is formulating a comprehensive policy for the overall welfare and development of tribal communities. It will also incorporate measures to protect and preserve tribal art and culture in the country.

The Ministry have also produced a number of documentaries on tribes which are being shown on regular basis on Doordarshan. These documentaries, *inter-alia,* document the unique culture of these communities.

Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED) is running a few tribes shops for marketing tribal arts and crafts and thereby ensuring better awareness of tribal art and craft items.

The Ministry of Culture also implement a scheme of "Promotion and dissemination of Tribal/Folk Art an Culture" under which financial assistance is provided to voluntary organizations and institutions engaged in the preservation and promotion of tribal/folk art and culture on a recurring or non-recurring basis.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs runs a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Research & Training-Grants-in-Aid to Tribal Research Institutes under which funds are provided to the State Governments on 50:50 sharing basis between State and Centre for various activities performed by these institutes. Most these institutes have set up tribal museums for exhibiting